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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/671,739	09/29/2003	Tomoyuki Okada	2003_1344	6752
513 7590 08/23/2007 WENDEROTH, LIND & PONACK, L.L.P. 2033 K STREET N. W. SUITE 800 WASHINGTON, DC 20006-1021			EXAMINER ZHAO, DAQUAN	
			ART UNIT 2621	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 08/23/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/671,739	OKADA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Daquan Zhao	2621	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 29 and 30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 29-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>9/29/2003</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Status

2. Claims 1-28 are cancelled; and claims 29 and 30 are new.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 29 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hirayama et al (US 5,652,824).

Regarding claim 29, Hirayama et al teach a playback method for an information recording medium, wherein:

the information recording medium comprises an area operable to have at least one stream data stored therein and area operable to have management information stored therein, wherein the stream data includes a video stream, a first audio stream and a second audio stream provided for an after-recording operation (e.g. figure 3B, column 7, lines 55-column 8, line 15);

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the management information comprises a status information which indicate whether or not after-recording data is recorded to the second audio stream (e.g. column 8, lines 30-45, the VID in the management table use "0" to indicate non-language code and 1, 2, 3, 4 to indicate language code, wherein different language are used for after-recording. The VID indicates the type of recorded language);

the play back method comprising: receiving a request for after-recording (e.g. column 17, lines 12-23, user selects a language to play); checking the status information (e.g. column 12, lines 26-48, system checks what language is selected and reproduce the selected language); and noticing that the second audio stream has already been after-recorded (e.g. figure 11A-C, column 13, lines 31-54, #0 appear on the display).

Hirayama et al fail to specify the management information comprises a status information which is operable to indicate whether or not the second audio stream is provided for an after-recording operation. However, Hirayama et al indicate the status of the audio being selected for playback (or after-recording operation) in figures 11A-11C, column 13, lines 31-55, and the examiner takes official notice for including status information in the management since it is well known in the art. It would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have included the status information in the management information to simplify the structure of the system.

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Regarding claim 30, Hirayama et al teach receiving a request for switching an audio stream to play back from the first audio stream to the second audio stream (e.g. figure 11A-C, column 13, lines 31-54).

Checking whether or not the first audio stream is the same as the second audio stream (user can select the same audio stream);

Without playing back the second audio stream if the same audio is play back (column 13, lines 55-65, for example, after the system finished playing audio #0, an unauthorized can not use the buttons 602 and 603 to play back audio #0).

However, Hirayama et al fail to specify "indicating error information". The examiner takes official notice for "indicating error information" since it is well known in the art. It would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to indicate error to increase the reliability of a system.

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Conclusion

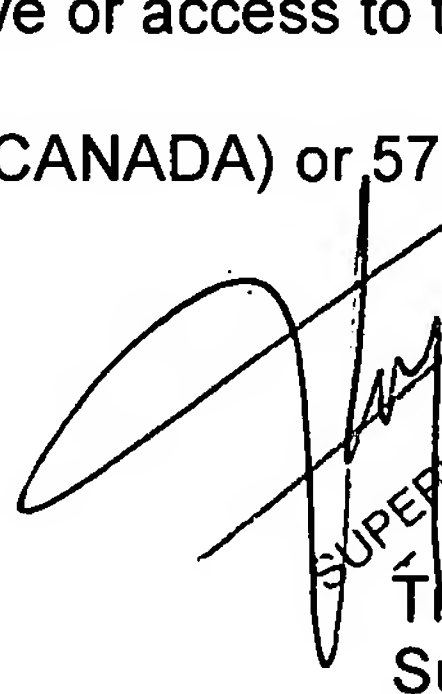
4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Kohashi (US 6,470,136 B1);

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daquan Zhao whose telephone number is (571) 270-1119. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Fri. 7:30 -5, alt Fri. off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tran Thai Q, can be reached on (571)272-7382. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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